Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ATHENS 07296 200957Z

11
ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 SSO-00

NSCE-00 /026 W
---------- 073088
O 200845Z JUL 76
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5613
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL IMMEDIATE
CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON IMMEDIATE
USCINCEUR VAIHAGEN IMMEDIATE RUSNAAA
USNAVCOMSTA NEA MAKRI
7206TH ABG ATHENS
558TH USA ARTILLERY GROUP ATHENS
USNMR SHAPE IMMEDIATE
USEUCOM IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ATHENS 7296

USNMR SHAPE FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OREP (BRYEN, STEPHEN AND RICHARDSON, WILLIAM)
SUBJ:STAFFDEL BRYEN/RICHARDSON

REF: (A) ATHENS 7098 (DTG 141014Z JUL 76), (B) STATE 168201
(DTG 072217Z JUL 76)

1. STAFFDEL BRYEN/RICHARDSON MET VARIOUS GOG OFFICIALS AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL FIGURES DURING THEIR JULY 14-17 STAY IN ATHENS.THEY WERE ALSO BRIEFED BY THE EMBASSY AND VISITED U.S. MILITARY INSTALLATIONS FOR SPECIAL BRIEFINGS AND TOURS.

2. THE STAFFDEL DIRECTED MUCH OF THEIR ATTENTION TO THE RAMIFICATIONS OF THE U.S. - TURKISH AND U.S. -GREEK DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENTS AND THE TIMING OF THEIR RESPECTIVE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 ATHENS 07296 200957Z

CONSIDERATION BY THE U.S. CONGRESS. STAFFDEL WAS ALSO

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

INTERESTED IN THE STRATEGIC VALUE OF GREECE TO THE U.S.
AS WELL AS ASCERTAINING THE NECESSITY FOR THE INDIVIDUAL
U.S. MILITARY INSTALLATIONS LOCATED IN THE COUNTRY. GREEK
PERCEPTIONS OF RELATIONS WITH TURKEY, GREECE'S POSITION
IN NATO AND THE CYPRUS QUESTION WERE LIKEWISE IMPORTANT
ISSUES WHICH THE STAFFDEL PURSUED.

3. IN THEIR CONVERSATIONS AT THE MFA WITH UNDER
SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS STAVROPOULOS AND AMBASSADOR
JOHN TZOUNIS THE STAFFDEL RECEIVED A COMPREHENSIVE
BRIEFING LASTING CLOSE TO TWO HOURS ON THE OFFICIAL GOG
POSITIONS ON THE AEGEAN PROBLEM AREAS, ON RELATIONS
WITH TURKEY, ON CYPRUS AND ON THE GREEK RELATIONSHIP
WITH NATO. WHILE NO NEW GROUND WAS BROKEN, THE STAFFDEL
RECEIVED A MORE COMPLETE UNDERSTANDING OF THE COMPLEXITIES
INVOLVED IN OVERALL GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONS AS WELL AS THE
PARTICULAR DIFFICULTIES OF EACH COMPONENT OF THESE
RELATIONS. THE GREEK OFFICIALS REFUSED TO COMMENT ON
THE U.S.- TURKISH DCA, HOWEVER, SAYING THAT TO DO SO WOULD
NOT BE PROPER. AS A SPECIAL COURTESY STAVROPOULOS
HOSTED DINNER FOR THE STAFFDEL AT A
SEASIDE RESORT HOTEL ON JULY 16.

4. BECAUSE OF A SUDDEN CHANGE IN SCHEDULING, ONLY
MR.RICHARDSON WAS ABLE TO MEET WITH DEFENSE MINISTER
AVEROFF. DURING AN HOUR AND A HALF SESSION AVEROFF, IN
HIS USUAL ARTICULATE FASHION, EXPLAINED HIS VIEWS
ON THE GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONSHIP, ON CYPRUS AND NATO
AND ON GREEK MILITARY READINESS. HE EMPHASIZED THE
POTENTIAL FOR DANGER PRESENTED BY THE
PROSPECTIVE VENTURE IN THE AEGEAN OF THE TURKISH
SEISMOGRAPHIC VESSEL SISMIK I AND SPOKE OF THE BELLICOSE
MOOD OF SOME SEGMENTS OF THE ARMED FORCES WHICH HE HAD
TO "KEEP IN CHECK."

5. IN THEIR MEETING WITH GEORGE MAVROS, LEADER OF THE
LARGEST OPPOSITION PARTY (UDC - UNION OF THE DEMOCRATIC
CENTER) THE VISITORS HEARD HIS PREDICTION THAT NEITHER
THE GREEK NOR TURKISH DCA'S WOULD BE PASSED BY CONGRESS, A
VIEW, HE CLAIMED, THAT WAS SHARED BY CARAMANLIS. MAVROS FILLED
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

THEM IN ON HIS INTERPRETATION OF THE SISMIK I EMBROGLIO,
FOLLOWING CLOSELY THE GOG OFFICIAL POSITION ON THE
MATTER. LATER, UDC DEPUTY JOHN PESMAZOGLOU TOLD THE
STAFFDEL THAT GREECE'S CLAIMS TO THE AEGEAN SEABED WERE
FOUNDED ON JUSTICE AND LAW, AND IF TAKEN TO THE INTERNATIONAL
COURT WOULD BE UPHELD. HE ALSO REPEATED AN OPINION WIDELY
HELD IN GREECE: TURKISH CLAIMS IN THE AEGEAN ARE PART OF
A BROADER AGRESSIVE DESIGN AGAINST GREECE BY AN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

EXPANSIONIST TURKEY.FROM DISSIDENT AMBASSADOR XYDIS, THE STAFFDEL HEARD THE FAMILIAR REFRAIN OF ACCUSATIONS CHARGING THE U.S. AS BEING FULLY RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL OF GREECE'S ILLS, INCLUDING THE 1967 COUP, SUPPORT OF THE JUNTA, THE COUP AGAINST MAKARIOS AND TACIT ACQUIESCENCE, IF NOT ACTIVE SUPPORT, OF THE CYPRUS INVASION.

6. AT THE U.S. MILITARY INSTALLATIONS, THE STAFFDEL ASKED PROBING QUESTIONS REGARDING THE ROLE AND JUSTIFICATION OF EACH FACILITY AND APPEARED TO BE ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN WHAT, IF ANY, ALTERNATIVES TO THESE FACILITIES MIGHT EXIST.

7. IN SUM, THE STAFFDEL EXPRESSED A HIGH DEGREE OF SATISFACTION AT THEIR PROGRAM, THEIR EXPOSURE TO A WIDE RANGE OF GREEK OPINION, AND THEIR VISITS TO U.S. MILITARY INSTALLATIONS. UPON THEIR DEPARTURE, HOWEVER, IT WAS EVIDENT THEY HAD NOT YET REACHED FIRM CONCLUSIONS CONCERNING THE DCA'S AND THEIR IMPACT ON U.S.-GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONS. THEY ALSO INDICATED THEY WOULD BE SEEKING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AT SHAPE AND ELSEWHERE ON U.A. MILITARY FACILITIES AND THE STRATEGIC VALUE OF GREECE.
KUBISCH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ATHENS07296
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760278-0810
From: ATHENS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760742/aaaabktc.tel
Line Count: 139
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION H
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 ATHENS 7098, 76 STATE 168201
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 FEB 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 FEB 2004 by morefirh>; APPROVED <18 FEB 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TAFFDEL BRYEN/RICHARDSON
TAGS: OREP, US, (BRYEN, STEPHEN), (RICHARDSON, WILLIAM)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006